



Georgia On My Mind

Monthly Newsletter of the ARRL Georgia Section

May 2025



Keep Your Eyes on the Spring Weather

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Upcoming Events

- 5/10** - Jasper Radio Club Inaugural Swap Meet
- 5/10** - Forsyth Tail Gate & Swap Meet
- 5/10** - Alford Memorial Radio Club Swap Meet
- 6/28-29** - ARRL Field Day
- 7/4** - Peachtree Road Race
- 7/12** - Georgia Games, White, GA
<https://georgiagames.org/>

Georgia on My Mind is a monthly newsletter of the ARRL, Georgia Section, highlighting the activities of Amateur Radio Operators and Clubs within the State.

To submit pictures, articles, or notices, please email the editor Karen Spradlin, K4LJS, at GeorgiaSectionARRL@gmail.com

To see previous issues of **Georgia on My Mind**:
<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1rbZFgq9k5JO45dYC4lvQNgB-6TqyO-S?usp=sharing>

The 2025 [National Hurricane Preparedness Week](#) is this week, from May 4th through May 10th. Please join us in spreading the word about hurricane safety and preparedness. Each day has a theme to help everyone prepare and stay safe during hurricane season:

May 4 - [Know Your Risk: Water & Wind](#)

May 5 - [Prepare Before Hurricane Season](#)

May 6 - [Understand Forecast Information](#)

May 7 - [Get Moving When a Storm Threatens](#)

May 8 - [Stay Protected During Storms](#)

May 9 - [Use Caution After Storms](#)

May 10 - [Take Action Today](#)

We will be sharing the themes and messaging on our [social media profiles](#) throughout the week. Content is available in [Spanish](#). Videos aligning with the themes are also available in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

Thank you to those who have already shared reports! If you have additional reports of hail or downed trees/powerlines or are still evaluating, please send any information our way when you have an opportunity to do so:

<https://www.weather.gov/ffc/strmsubm1>

We greatly appreciate any information that you can provide!

Upcoming Events

Alford Memorial Radio Club Swap Meet

Saturday, May 10, 2025 from 0900 to 1300.

Setup can start as early as 0800.

The location is **Tucker Recreation Center, 4898 LaVista Rd., Tucker, GA, 30084.**

We will be in the back parking lot behind the building.

Whether you are trying to unload stuff you no longer use, or are looking for a bargain on something you need, whether you know you need it or not, this is the place for you.

In addition, it is a great time to share comradery, tips, suggestions and discuss problems with other hams.

Coffee and donuts/pastries will be available as well as drinks and hot dogs at lunch time. No charge to set up and free admission, but we'll appreciate donations to defray food/beverage costs.



Jasper Radio Club Tailgater Swapmeet

Saturday May 10 at Cornertone Church

140 Cornerstone Drive

Jasper, GA 30143

Swapmeet starts at 8:00 am

License test session at 1:00 pm

Free admission, plenty of parking, and everyone is welcome.

May 10, 2025

5th Annual Tailgate & Swap Fest — Forsyth, Georgia

Monroe County Recreation Center

100 Dan Pitts Drive - Forsyth, Georgia 31029

Setup 6:30am—8:00am

Start 8:00am—End 2:00pm

This is an Indoor event at the recreation center main gymnasium building. Soft sole shoes required. Please bring your own tables and chairs. Bring your 2-wheel dollies. A few tables are available on a first come basis. Limited outdoor setup is available.

VE Exams for all license classes will be available at the tailgate. Exams start at 10:30am, reservations are **required**. Please contact Charles Kight (AI4UN) directly at cekight3@yahoo.com before May 7th for a reservation. There will be no exam fee, seating is limited to 10 candidates.

Free Admission for all attendees, donations accepted. Food is available for purchase. No pets or alcohol are permitted at the event.

Talk-In is on the W8JI repeater, 147.225, +6, No tone. Visit our website <http://barnesvillega.net> for other information.

For questions, contact N5FBI, Tim Cherry, at N5FBI@ARRL.NET, or call 770-358-2789.

ARRL FIELD DAY

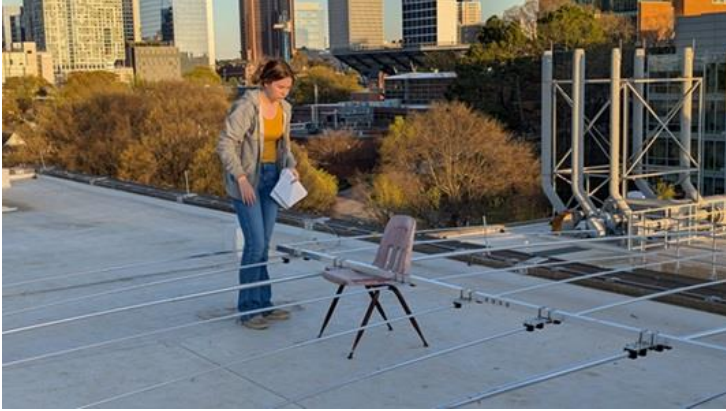


FDY25

JUNE 28-29

Club Activities

My daughter Audrey KM4BUN is President of the W4AQL Georgia Tech Amateur Radio Club. Some of the student club members were up on the roof of the Van Lear building on campus, working on their new Yagi antenna, and the had a visitor come by to supervise!



This has been a year-long project, first the disassembly of the towers and antennas and coaxial feelines, and the high-torque rotor control system that turns the antenna wayyyy up on the tower from wayyy down below on the fourth floor, followed by a roof renovation and installation of a white polymer roof.

While the towers were being installed, Audrey specified a new type of antenna optimized for global communication sending voice and digital data from the campus of The Georgia Institute of Technology over the HF (aka Shortwave) Amateur Radio bands. You see the antenna on supports. On rainy days, Audrey and her team were working the equations for the complex impedance matching mathematics that insures that power generated at the transmitter on the 4th floor is coupled to the antenna over a long coaxial feedline to the roof, up the tower,



up the tower, to the highly sensitive transition point where the cable ends, and the antenna begins, allowing maximum power to be radiated efficiently out to space.

Maxwell's equations were being exercised to the fullest!



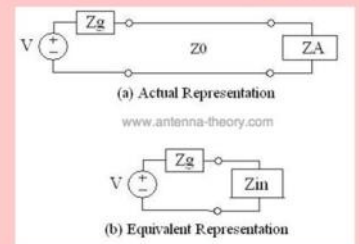
As soon as they had nice weather they climbed out of the access hatch, and out to a roof where they climbed another ladder to arrive up on the high roof of the Van Lear building on the Georgia Tech campus. Those equations are then compared with empirical analysis using scientific instrumentation up on the roof.

How critical is this? Well, once you think that your math is correct, you raise the huge antenna to the top of the tower... when it will stay, You get one-shot at this, you must have tremendous confidence in your math and electrical and mechanical skills as a Georgia Tech Engineer. Nobody was hired to perform this task. The students carry a big burden of responsibility, and a lot of money and pride is at stake.

Example

Consider a voltage source, with generator impedance Z_g , hooked to an antenna with Z_A via a transmission line. Suppose that $Z_g=50$ Ohms, $Z_A=50$ Ohms, $Z_0=200$ Ohm, the line is a quarterwavelength long. How much power does the generator deliver?

Answer: The diagram for this problem is given in the following diagram:



The above diagram also shows the "equivalent circuit". The input impedance become

$$\beta L = \left(\frac{2\pi}{\lambda} \right) \left(\frac{\lambda}{4} \right) = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$Z_m(-L) = Z_0 \left[\frac{Z_A + jZ_0 \tan(\beta L)}{Z_0 + jZ_A \tan(\beta L)} \right]$$

$$= \left(200 \left[\frac{50 + j(200) \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)}{200 + j(50) \tan\left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)} \right] \right) \rightarrow 200 \frac{200}{50} = 800\Omega$$

Hence, the current that flows is given by:

$$I = \frac{V}{Z_g + Z_m} = \frac{V}{850} \text{ [Amps]}$$

But this is WHY you go to Georgia Tech. Dad pride from W4SDR...

♪ the future's so bright, I gotta wear shades ♪
Tom McElroy, W4SDR

World Amateur Radio Day

Gateway Amateur Radio Club of Cleveland North Georgia Amateur Radio Club Fourlanders Contest Team

To co-incide with WARD, The North Georgia Amateur Radio Club W4QQ, The Gateway Amateur Radio Club K4GAR and The Fourlanders Contest Team W4NH hosted a Skills Day and Open House at the W4ZST shack in Dahlonega.



We had a fantastic turnout with 28 folks attending. The largest crowd we've ever hosted here. The shack got a little crowded as that it the only spot available for the presentations but we had tents, tables and chairs outside for gathering and especially for our lunch. Members from our local clubs and several others from SARA in Cumming. Several members came early and stayed late for set up and take down and their help was greatly appreciated.

We had morning presentations by Brad KM4QHI on Dstar and the PiStar HotSpot, Pete N4KHQ on the AllStar Node HotSpot, Paul W4DUI on the new LORA/Meshtastic system, and Mike KK4PMW on DMR and the OpenSpot Pro. They were well attended and most commented on how much they learned.



We broke for lunch at Noon to BBQ Smoked Boston Butts and chicken by NGARC President David K4XRT with Buns and BBQ sauce. Brunswick Stew and Cole Slaw by Bob W4ZST ala the Fourlanders W4NH favorites. Also Potato Salad, Cold Drinks and Water. A couple of announcements were made along with around the tables introductions of all the attendees. Many new friends were made and many got to meet in person for the first time after knowing each other on the radio.

We picked up again for the afternoon session where Russ K4WQS had his portable solar powered HF/VHF GoBox and antenna set up outside for demonstration. Russ also did a well received tutorial on installing and using the popular Power-Pole connectors. After that Buck KC4GCK did a demo of Surface Mount construction techniques that also got a lot of attention and was well attended.



Since the shack is set up for five band multi-op by W4NH and EME by W4ZST and friends, it is not the best for presentations but we did have several of the multiple monitors around connected so that everyone didn't have to just be in line of sight. It seemed to work well. I will continue doing that for future get-togethers here.

Thanks to all who attended and contributed to this club effort.

73, Bob W4ZST

Georgia Death Race



Club Activities

KK4GQ – Fayette County ARC

Hey everyone we had a great time at our informal club breakfast. Every Friday morning, 7am at Thumbs Up Diner Trilith/Fayetteville all are welcome. Hope you'll join us next week.



Alford Memorial Radio Club

July 4th and the Peachtree Road Race are approaching and we are looking for Ham and/or GMRS Radio Operators to assist. Please consider Signing up to assist.

Sign up at the [Atlanta Track Club website](https://atlantatrackclub.com/volunteer/?id=98060)
Enter the password "PRR25HAM" to sign up for the "Communications - HAM Operator" position.

Start times are o'dark thirty, End times vary by position but all will conclude before noon to allow you to enjoy the rest of your holiday weekend. Thank you for your support!

Ham Radio Volunteers Needed

Friday July 4th 2025



PLEASE CONSIDER SIGNING UP TO ASSIST
(OR AT LEAST HELP SPREAD THE WORD)

Sign up at the Atlanta Track Club website
<https://atlantatrackclub.com/volunteer/?id=98060>
Enter the password "PRR25HAM" to sign up for the
"Communications - HAM Operator" position.



The 2025 Peachtree Road Race is a major event for the City of Atlanta and we need operators to communicate for race officials, water stops, pace vehicles and at the Piedmont Park Finish area. Use the link above to sign up as either an Amateur Radio Operator and/or a GMRS Radio Operator. Previous years we successfully used GMRS operators inside Piedmont Park and will do so again this year.

1st Draft of Assignments will be sent Mid-June, 2025

SPORTS COMPLEX
9622 US-HWY 11
TRENTON, GA 30752

SOUTH DADE
265 SCHOOL STREET
RISING FAWN, GA 30738

SAND MOUNTAIN
249 DAVIS SCHOOL ROAD
TRENTON, GA 30752

ALL SHELTERS ARE
FEMA APPROVED & CAN
WITHSTAND WINDS
UP TO 250 MPH



Dade County Weather Shelters – find yours!

Had a lot of fun doing the Georgia Auxcomm CommEx. Operated with Mitchell County ARES along with Jamie Sullivan, KJ4OPY during a fire drill that the city of Camilla fire department and county fire departments were having.

Matthew Overbey



Awards & more news

The raw scores are in for the ARRL DX Phone contest and if things don't change, I placed 1st in Georgia and 6th in the southeast for single operator low power.

Andrew Burnette, K4OTT

Contests - 2025 ARRL International DX Phone Contest - Raw Scores

Raw scores as calculated **before** log checking.

From the list below, select the contest or call sign for which you want to view scores and then click on Go. If you believe any of the raw mail the contest branch manager at contests@arrl.org.

2025 ARRL International DX Phone Contest

Single Operator Unlimited, Low Power

Georgia

or

Show scores for U.S. Call Area 4 or Southeastern Division or All W/VE

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Rank	Category	Call Sign	QTH	Score
1	SOULP	K4OTT	GA	291,600



The following repeaters are all on backup power, up on Mt. Oglethorpe in NW Georgia.

145.430, 443.750, 146.700, 441.675,
927.025, 146.080, 144.910, 145.710,
145.750



Calhoun Hamfest



Dots, Dashes & Tidbits

Georgia Section Nets

ARES Phone & Digital Nets

Conducted on Sundays

unless there is a declared emergency

Note: GA ARES Net information can be found at gaares.org – Select Nets & Frequencies

Georgia Section ARES Net:

Section Net Manager: Frank Hobbs, KN4QJ

kn4qj@arrl.net

Sundays @ 2200 UTC on 3975 KHz.

Net control operator: Frank Hobbs, KN4QJ

Alt. net control operator: Jim Altman, W4UCK

Alt. net control operator: Frank Dean - K4SJR

Georgia Section ARES Digital Nets:

Section Digital Net Manager & Asst. Section Traffic

Manager - Don Jones, K4GO k4go@arrl.net

Digital Team Leaders also serve as net control operators.

Winlink Net Manager: Russell Prevost, AB4QQ

Sun. 0001-2100 Send checkins to GAARES-Net

Net control operator: Hank Blackwood, K4HYJ

Net control operator: Mark Bell, N7GRB

Net control operator: David Blubaugh, ND1J

Net control operator: Brian Freeman, KN4DLT

Net control operator: Bill Hall, K9HRO

Winlink P2P Net Manager: David Blubaugh, ND1J

Net control operator: Kory Oldham, W4RZ

Net control operator: Murdock Gragg, W4JNR

Net control operator: Ricky Bramlett, NG4DX

Net control operator: Russell Prevost, AB4QQ

Sun. 0800-1400 Send checkins to GAARES-P2P

PSK & Traffic Nets Net Manager Kory Oldham, W4RZ

Traffic Sun. @ 2100 UTC -PSK125 every odd month

Net control operator: Richard Austin, W4BYT

Net control operator: David Blubaugh, ND1J

Net control operator: Bob Garza, K4TLG

Net control operator: Don Jones, K4GO

Net control operator: Ken Wallis, KM4HOS

DStar Net 3rd Monday of month, 2030 on REF3A

National Traffic System (NTS) Nets

CW Nets

Georgia State Net (GSN): Medium speed CW

Net Manager, John Laney - K4BAI Alt.

Daily at 7:00 pm and 10:00 pm on 3549 KHz.

Georgia Training Net (GTN): Slow speed CW

Net Manager, Jerry Brunet - WE4GA

Daily at 9:00 pm 3549 KHz.

Phone Nets

Georgia Cracker Net:

Net Manager, John Collette - AF4XZ

Daily at 0700 Mon-Sat, 0800 Sun. on 3995 KHz.

Georgia Single Sideband Association Net:

Net Manager, Terry Cantrell - W4WTC

Nightly at 2300 UTC on 3975 KHz.

web address: gssradio.net

Georgia Traffic and Emergency Net (GTEN):

This net has been merged with the GA SSB Assoc net, held every night (see above).

VEs - If you, or your club, offers testing, please forward the positive results of your session, so that the new (or upgraded) hams may receive recognition on this page.

GeorgiaSectionARRL @ gmail.com



Tri-County Amateur Radio Club

Thank you to all who came out and supported the 2025 Patterson SwapMeet!!! Enjoyed getting to see everyone and the weather was great!





ARRL **SWEEPSTAKES**

ICOM **DREAM STATION**

www.arrl.org/DreamStation

DREAM BIG! >>

Win this Dream Station with the **latest gear** from Icom.



IC-7760

60th Anniversary Signature Edition
HF/50 MHz 200 W Transceiver



IC-PW2

1 kW Linear Amplifier



SM-50

Desktop Microphone



Seiko Watch

Icom 60th Anniversary
Limited Edition

>> DREAM NOW!

JOIN OR RENEW

SET UP AUTO-RENEW

DONATE TO DIAMOND CLUB

3 Ways to Enter*:

Members automatically earn ARRL Sweepstakes entries when they **join or renew** (earn 1 entry), **set up auto-renewal** (earn 2 entries), or **donate to Diamond Club** (earn 1 entry for every \$50 donated) any time from **January 3 through December 31, 2025**.
Limit of 6 entries per person.

* No Purchase Necessary. For **Official Rules** visit www.arrl.org/DreamStation/rules.

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